Fall in sugarcane cultivation and production of sugar

467. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that areas under sugarcane cultivation has fallen and sugar output declined during the last three years; if so, the details thereof together with the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the sugar production?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The area under sugarcane cultivation and the sugar production during the last three seasons were as under:—

Year	Area under sugarcane cultivation (Million hectares)	Sugar production (lakh tonnes)
1983-84 . . .	3·11	59·16
1984-85 . . .	2·95	61·44
1985-86 . . .	2·86	70·03

Though the area under sugarcane cultivation declined during 1984-85 and 1985-86 season as compared to 1983-84, the sugar production has shown a steady increasing trend due to various measures initiated by the Government.

(b) The following measures have been taken to increase the sugar production during 1986-87 season:—

(1) Increase in Statutory minimum price of sugarcane payable by sugar factories to Rs. 17 per quintal linked to basic recovery of 8.5 per cent with proportionate premium for every 0.1 per cent rise in recovery above the basic level.

(2) Advance announcement of Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane for 1987-88 season at Rs. 18 per quintal.

(3) A rebate in Excise-duty for early crushing during the month of October and November, 1986 in excess of average quantity produced during corresponding period in preceding two seasons.

(4) Differential levy price of Rs. 26 per quintal to weak units.

(5) The ex-factory price of levy sugar for 1986-87 seasons fixed on statutory minimum price of Rs. 17 per quintal of sugar cane.

(6) Creation of separate zones for ex-factory levy price in respect of North and South Maharashtra and Saurashtra and South Gujarat.

(7) Change in ratio of levy to free sale sugar from 55:45 to 50:50.

(8) Announcement of sugar policy for 1986-87 and for the 7th Plan period with a view to harmonising the interests of consumers, sugarcane growers and sugar industry at large.

Renting of godowns by FCI

468. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SHAU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total storage capacity of foodgrains available with Food Corporation of India in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have taken on rent any godowns from Private parties in Delhi; if so, the number thereof as on 31st January, 1987;

(c) whether all the godowns mentioned above are fully utilised; if so, the quantity of foodgrains stored in these during the last one year;

(d) if these are not fully utilised the reasons therefor and the reasons for continuing them on rent;

(e) the amount of money paid as rent for these godowns during the last one year; and

(f) what is the approximate quantity of foodgrain damaged in these godowns during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) As on 1-1-1987, the covered storage capacity for foodgrains with the Food Corporation of India in Delhi was 2.28 lakh tonnes.

(b) The Corporation did not have any private hired godown during the period 1-1-1986 to 31-1-1987.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

Import of fertiliser

469. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity and type of fertiliser with involvement of Foreign Exchange, imported during the years 1985, 1986 and so far in 1987;

(b) the reasons for these imports; and

(c) the names of the countries from which the imports were made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The information is furnished in the table given below:

Year	Quantities imported (in lakh tonnes of nutrients)				Total cost & Freight (in Crores of Rs.)	Foreign Exchange Component
	N	P	K	Total		(Rs. in crores
1984-85 . . .	20·08	7·45	8·71	36·24	1500·00	1019·00)
1985-86	16·80	8·16	9·03	33·99	1405·00	854·00
1985-87 (up to 31-1-1987)	9·85	2·46	8·12	20·43	65·00 (approx.)	340·00 (approx.)

(b) Some quantities of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers are required to be imported because the indigenous production of these fertilisers is not sufficient to meet the demand of the farmers. The entire requiremnt of muriate and sulphate of Potash is also being imported since there is no indigenous source.

(c) The countries from which the fertilisers are generally imported are Abu Dhabi, Bulgaria, Belgium, Burma, Czechoslovakia, Canada, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Holland, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Norway, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Poland, Trinidad and Tabago, USA, USSR and Yugoslavia.

Licensing of Vegetable Oil Mills

470. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have changed rules regarding licensing of vegetable oil mills;

(b) what is the number of applications received for setting up of vegetable mills (vanaspati ghee) by (i) private parties (ii) cooperative societies (iii) Jt. Sector during the last six months;

(c) the number of applications received from Bihar in each category mentioned above alongwith date of receipt; and